

May 2007

Dear Friends:

The 2007 Legislature was a remarkably fast moving event with many accomplishments to report to my 2nd District constituents. This newsletter focuses on the accomplishments that directly benefit our expansive district, as a result of our effort.

For three years, I have focused on improving health care for our citizens. This was a record year as we took on the hospitals to require them to report to all of us their successes and failures in getting a handle on dealing with the horrific concerns for hospital-acquired infections. We won!

I was honored to be named Chairman of the House Select Committee on Environmental Health. With that reach across the aisle by House leadership, the tone for a bi-partisan direction in focusing on the environmental health of our state was set. As a new committee that will face many challenges in the future, we hit the ground running and achieved some important victories, dealing with a number of environmental concerns.

I look forward to talking with you about the many accomplishments we had this session, and have scheduled a series of Town Hall Meetings. I also ask you to get in touch with me anytime by calling my Olympia office @ (360) 786-1912 or through my e-mail address: campbell.tom@leg.wa.gov. It is an honor for me to serve you in the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,



Representative Tom Campbell

State Representative **Tom Campbell** 2nd Legislative District

*Serving the citizens of Graham, Spanaway, Roy, McKenna, Eatonville,
Orting, Puyallup's South Hill, Yelm, Rainier, Elbe and Ashford.*



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2007 SESSION FINAL REPORT

State Representative
TOM CAMPBELL

P.O. Box 40600
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TOWN HALL
MEETINGS!

Saturday, May 19
& Saturday, May 26, 2007

See front cover for details

State Representative **TOM CAMPBELL**



2nd Legislative District



2007 SESSION FINAL REPORT

Mark your
calendar:

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Saturday – May 19
and
Saturday – May 26
2007

Saturday, May 19

Yelm 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Yelm City Hall
105 Yelm Ave. W

Roy 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.
Roy City Hall
216 McNaughton St. S

Graham 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.
Graham Fire Station
23014 70th Ave E

Saturday, May 26
Eatonville 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Eatonville Library
205 Center Street W

Orting 2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Orting Multi-Purpose Center
202 Washington Ave. S

■ Governor signs Hospital-acquired infections bill

For the third year, I have introduced one of the most important health care bills in many years. The instances of people who go to the hospital seeking treatment for an ailment are often exposed to infections caused by the hospital environment.

We know that across the nation each year two-million Americans who are admitted to a hospital are exposed to a variety of infections. We know that 90,000 of these patients die because of the exposure, and we know that these infections cost our health care facilities more, much more, than \$4.5 billion every year.

I introduced legislation (2SHB 1106) to require hospitals to report hospital acquired infections. The Department of Health will report hospital-acquired infection rates so patients can know the safety aspects of their hospital stay.

When you, the public, have this information, you will know which health care facility you will trust with your health and your life. It also will turn around those health care facilities that have the highest infections rate to realize they must clean up their acts.

“Governor Gregoire signed my bill into law in memory of my father, Charles M. Campbell, who died of Hospital-acquired infections in 2002,” Campbell said. “I hope other families will not have to lose a loved one needlessly to hospital acquired infection. It took three years of effort to accomplish this goal, but it was well worth the effort.”



Governor Chris Gregoire signs into law Rep. Campbell's Hospital-acquired infections bill as Campbell's mother, Edna Campbell, looks on. Campbell's father, Charles M. Campbell, died in 2002 because of a hospital-acquired infection.

■ Senate fails to pass health care discipline measure



Again this year, the House overwhelmingly passed my bill to give authority for health care provider discipline to the state Department of Health, but the Senate again failed to pass legislation critical to every medical consumer in the state.

The bill would protect patients from health care providers who deceive, defraud or sexually abused their patients. Among other things, it would require background checks on health care providers before they can obtain a state license to practice.

This discipline bill had strong bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate. The Senate Health Care Committee offered bipartisan support. But, Senate leadership failed our citizens when they refused to bring this measure for a vote.

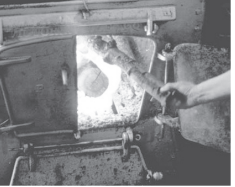
I will be back again next year with legislation to deal with this critical issue of ensuring those in our state who require health care will receive the highest standard for medical health care providers.

Most health care providers in our state are very competent and professional practitioners who are too often unheralded for their ability. This bill would not affect them. But it would go after the incompetent or criminal health care providers who sadly go undetected in our state.

■ Campbell Chairs House Select Committee on Environmental Health

This year, I was named Chairman of the House Select Committee on Environmental Health. I am very pleased with the move to create a bipartisan approach to the important issue of Environmental Health. Two of the primary measures to pass this session are:

Wood smoke emission bill (HB 2261) — This new law will establish an in-depth study to reduce air pollution caused by wood burning stoves. We know the federal Environmental Protect Agency is planning to decrease the acceptable level of particulate matter. We need to step forward to consider how we can deal with the issues before the feds mandate it for us.



This summer, representatives from state environmental agencies, regional air quality agencies, state and local health departments, industry and nongovernmental health organizations will join forces to conduct extensive studies on the impact of wood smoke. They will make recommendations to our committee for legislation on practical, cost-effective ways to reduce the public health threats from exposure to wood smoke.

Toxic PBDEs ban becomes law — Another major accomplishment of our new committee is House Bill 1024 to ban toxic poisons in flame retardants from used in common household products, including mattresses, televisions and computers.

This law will phase out the use of a toxic flame retardant known as polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs). Research has linked exposure to the chemical with a wide range of health problems, particularly risky to children.

Washington is the first state to take on this important environmental health issue, and we expect many states will follow our lead.

Pesticides — We also established a program for the University of Washington and Washington State University to conduct a thorough study on how many pesticides affect our environmental health.

■ 2007–09 State Operating Budget

I voted for the State Operating Budget this year because it is a positive step forward to meet the needs of the people of Washington. This budget proposal meets several important criteria that won my vote: It doesn't raise taxes; It creates a 'rainy day' savings account to establish fiscal responsibility for future generations; and it does meet our essential needs of adequate funding for education, higher education, health care, and creating a better, healthier environment.

This is an important step in the right direction with a budget that meets the demands of our state. We'd lost ground during the 1990s in education, human services and health care. Our district and the people of Washington are well served by this budget.

■ \$41 million in Transportation Budget goes to 2nd District projects

As a member of the House Transportation Committee, I am pleased to report that transportation projects important to our 2nd District have been funded in this year's State Transportation Budget. Here's how we fared:

- **\$21.4 million** for the next phase of the **Yelm Loop Road**, the four-mile, three-lane highway that will loop State Routes 510 and 507 to bypass the Yelm city-center, relieving the city's growing traffic congestion.
- **\$19 million** for the **Cross Base Highway** that will provide travelers with a six-mile, multi-lane divided highway to ease congestion on I-5, SR 512 and SR 7, the Spanaway Loop Road and also 174th St.
- It also includes \$665,000 for the Elbe Safety Rest Area.

As you see, we have succeeded in holding committed funds for projects vital to our district.

State Representative TOM CAMPBELL

2007 SESSION FINAL REPORT

■ 2nd District earns \$7.7 million in final Capital Budget

I'm very proud of our success to fund major 2nd District projects in the Capital Budget. This list shows the projects in each state agency's construction budget:

Dept. of Community, Trade & Economic Development – \$2.6 million for 2nd District:

- Bethel Community Center — \$1 million;
- Eatonville Family Park — \$200,000;
- Rainier Lifelong Learning Center — \$200,000
- Ashford Cultural Center & Mountaineering Museum — \$800,000;
- Orting Bridge for Kids — \$500,000;

Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation – \$4 million for 2nd District:

- Bald Hill NRCA — \$2.6 million;
- Mashel Riparian Habitat — \$823,000;
- Allen Forest Critical Habitat — \$568,000.

State Parks & Recreation Commission – \$1 million for 2nd District:

- Voight Creek hatchery — \$505,000;
- Nisqually Mashel State Park — \$500,000.

Alternate project that could still be funded this year:

- An alternate project that could still be funded this year - Orting Gratzner Park — \$200,000.



Rep. Tom Campbell welcomes 15-year-old Elizabeth Baron. Elizabeth is the daughter of Christopher and Laura Baron of Roy.

■ House Pages serve our District

Again this year, I was pleased to sponsor seven young students from our district to serve as Pages to the House. They are:

- **Samantha Mainard** - eighth-grader from Eatonville Middle School,
- **Sydney Odell** is a freshman at North Thurston High School,
- **Kaitlyn Schlegel** is an eighth-grader at Ballou Jr. High School in Puyallup,
- **Elizabeth Barron** is a 15-year-old who is 'home schooled,'
- **Dalina Nugyen** is a freshman at North Thruston High School in Lacey,
- **Virginia Ann Wightman-Massey** is a freshman at North Thurston High School;
- and **Trung A. Vu** is an eighth-grader at Saint Michael School in Olympia.

The Page Program is for students age 14-16 to serve for one week, doing a variety of tasks assisting legislators and staff. It's a great opportunity for young people to see first-hand their Legislature in action. I urge young people who would like to apply to be a House page to contact my office for next session.